

## HOME, ITS PROBLEMS AND INTERESTS



## A FAVORITE STRAW HAT.

The new straw hats are marvels of beauty and skill in their weaving and colors, and while it is better taste to have one's hat and gown match many women of the really fashionable set are wearing hats of totally different hue from their costumes. Our model is pink chip trimmed with a wreath of hydrangeas shading from pink to deep lavender.

## AN EASTER DINNER SHOULD BE PLANNED A LITTLE AHEAD

A Menu Possible in Almost Any Part of the Country—The Decorations Should Be in White or in White and Gold.

By CORNELIA C. BEDFORD.

Easter is now close at hand and it seems but fitting that we should plan a special dinner for the day. White is the Easter color, white and gold standing next in favor. The stately resurrection lily is the chosen symbol of Easter but as it is not always obtainable white azaleas, hyacinths, or other white flowers may be substituted. Signalize the place, even if it is a simple home dinner, by a single flower spray at each place and a centerpiece, though the latter may be small. For a formal meal the place sprays may be tied with narrow white ribbon or they may be arranged in small holders—such as bisque awans—which will serve as favors. For the menu itself, the following would be feasible in almost any section of the country.

Oysters on the half shell  
Consomme  
Baked rock fish  
Potatoes parisienne  
Cucumbers  
Mint jelly  
Crown of lamb  
Rice croquettes  
Asparagus salad  
Peanut butter  
Ice cream  
Coffee  
Fancy cakes

## Oysters on the Half Shell.

For those who live inland and cannot obtain fresh oysters, it would be quite permissible to serve halved grape fruit as a substitute, the pulp being loosened in each piece of halved fruit that it may be the more readily eaten. A hearty meal should never begin with a heavy soup, hence a thin clear bouillon or consommé is most suitable. When the cook is not an adept, it may be found true economy to purchase a can or jar from a caterer. To make sufficient for six persons, cut one pound of lean beef in small pieces, also two pounds of veal. Melt one tablespoonful of butter in a soup kettle, and in it brown one-third of the beef. Add slowly, skimming until it boils, then draw to one side, cover and simmer gently for four hours. Add one heaping tablespoonful each of chopped onion and carrot, one quarter of a bay leaf, a sprig of parsley, a stalk of celery, a clove, one teaspoonful of salt and a dozen peppercorns, and simmer for one hour longer. Strain without pressure through a cheesecloth and set away. Next morning remove the congealed fat from the surface. Taste to see that the seasoning is right and it is ready to heat.

## Baked Rock Fish.

Any firm fleshed fish weighing three pounds or more may be selected according to your market. Wash, wipe and, if desired, stuff. Arrange in a baking pan, lard with a number of thin slices of larding pork, and bake in a hot oven until the flesh draws away from the bones—this will take from forty to sixty minutes according to size. To serve with it have about a quart of potato balls cut raw. Soak them in cold water until fairly tender. Drain, put in a saucepan, dredge lightly with salt and paprika, then pour over them three tablespoonfuls of melted butter. Stand at the side of the fire where they can absorb the butter, and when in the dish sprinkle with chopped parsley. The cucumbers are to be thinly sliced, soaked in ice water until crisp, then drain and serve with a French dressing.

## Crown of Lamb.

The butcher will use all of the ribs of one animal for the crown of lamb. The back bone should be slashed between each rib, and the rib bones prettily

frenched before the meat is drawn into the circular or "crown" shape. About one hour and a half will be required for roasting as lamb should be thoroughly done. It is well to cover the end of each bone with buttered paper to prevent burning and unsightly tips. To add a festive appearance to the dish, each bone may be finished with an ornamental paper frill. The peas will probably be of the canned variety. Wash them repeatedly after draining and let stand in cold water for two hours. Finally heat in a little seasoned butter. Heap them in the center of the crown of meat.

## Rice Croquettes.

Boil one cupful of washed rice in salted water for ten minutes, then drain and put it in a double boiler. Add one pint of strained tomato, and a high seasoning of salt, pepper and onion juice, and cook until the liquid is absorbed. Add one tablespoonful of butter, one tablespoonful of chopped parsley, and one well-beaten egg, turn out on a greased dish and set aside. When cold form into small croquettes, egg and crumb them. Fry in deep, smoking hot fat (as recently described in detail in this column) and drain on paper before serving.

The asparagus for the salad should be boiled in salted water until tender, then laid in cold water until chilled—this heightens the color. For use dry it on a cloth and marinate with a French dressing. Serve on blanched lettuce leaves—the romaine variety if possible—and pass extra dressing with it.

## To Make Ice Cream.

As cream is at times difficult to obtain, and at all times is expensive the following ice cream will be found extremely good and not over costly. Scald a pint and a half of milk in a double boiler. Rub one heaping tablespoonful of flour to a thin paste with some milk, turn it quickly into the hot milk and stir until slightly thickened; cover and cook for a full half hour. Beat together four eggs and one cupful and a half of sugar. Turn into the cooked milk and stir steadily until as thick as custard, then strain and put aside to chill. Flavor with one tablespoonful of vanilla (or any flavor desired), add one pint of cream and turn into the freezer. When frozen hard, withdraw the dasher, work the cream down in the can, cover and repack with more ice and salt and set aside for two hours to ripen. With this as a foundation a plain cream may be changed from time to time by the addition of pulped fruit, crumbled stale macaroons, etc.

## The Cake to Be Served.

Any good cake recipe may be used for the small cakes, but as the dinner has been a full one and the cream is rich, a sponge or other light cake will generally prove more acceptable than some richer kind. The batter may be baked in sheets and cut as desired, or in small fancy molds. In either case the cakes are finished by covering with icing into which, while soft, may be pressed bits of candied fruits, dragées, or other small candies of any color desired. Last, but not least, comes the coffee. It should be strong, clear, and piping hot. It is generally preferred without cream, but a small pitcher may be passed for the few who desire it.

## HATS IN PARIS

Are Especially Attractive and Lovely This Year.

Every day brings something new, and the milliners are making a big effort to tempt us. We buy one hat after another, and think each one prettier than the last. At this time of year hats are our greatest extravagance.

A kind of silver gauze over pink, stretched on a low frame, is the newest fancy; the effect of color is good, as the silver throws a white light upon the pink. The trimming is nothing but a twist of crimson velvet and tied in a small mob at the edge of the brim in front.

Nearly all the hats are raised at the back and sides with flowers, lovely spring flowers copied like only Paris manufacturers can copy. There are double stocks in pink and white, and the most perfect of fruit blossoms placed on the side of brown and violet tulle hats and tulips in variegated reds and mauves upon golden straws that are wonderful imitations of the real flower, and make harmonious color with our dark tailor suits.

Color is everything in the hats today, and there is only time to stop and try on the new effects and the hundred frames or so to pay for them that are needed. The hats are here, and charming they are.

## Women the World Over.

A daily paper recently saw fit to publish several reasons why men would regret it if they married school teachers. A few days later there appeared in the same paper an account of a teacher famine, owing to the fact that so many women had left their schools to become wives. This only shows how eager men are to take advice.

To be selected to the organization known as Phi Beta Kappa is one of the highest honors that colleges and universities can grant its banner graduates. It is only recently that six students of the Chicago University were elected to this honor. Five of the six were women.

In Louisville a colored woman, Mrs. White, has received the certificate permitting her to practice law. So far as is known she is the first woman lawyer of her race.

A kindergarten in New York now occupies a building worth \$30,000. Years ago one woman with a capital of \$14 started this now fully equipped institution.

In 1560 Mistress Montague, one of Queen Elizabeth's tirewomen, presented the Queen with a pair of silk stockings. They were highly appreciated, and it is said that Queen Elizabeth was the first woman to wear silk hose.—Milwaukee Journal.

## "Auburn" Hair.

When red hair makes its appearance on a human head all lukewarmness is at an end. It is either loved or loathed. Its admirers, with artists in the van, are almost hysterically enthusiastic. They call it golden, though the gold that comes out of the earth is not often exactly that shade. A red-haired woman is sure of a success in some quarter, however plain her face or insignificant her figure. The detractors of red hair say it is a sign of bad temper, or immorality, or both, and therefore to be scrupulously avoided.—London Queen.

## Handkerchief Borders

## To Match the Gown

Authorities in Paris are urging the carrying of handkerchiefs with colored borders to correspond with the toilet with which it is to be worn. One variety has scalloped frills around the edge, and each frill is embroidered with the required color, and it has a tiny flounce of lace finishing the model.

## Wayside Observations.

You can't borrow money on dignity. A man feels blue when he turns green with envy.

A honeymoon is the calm before the storm.

Bad liquor sometimes produces good resolutions—the next day.

It is noticeable that very pretty women are not partial to high voices.

The love (of booze) makes the world go round.

Eternal vigilance is the price of staying out of the way of automobiles.

"All that goes up must come down"—unless you are seasick. In that case all that goes down must come up.

It will be observed that no grand dukes have been killed on the firing line.—Dallas News.

## In Planting Trees.

In planting trees the roots should be pruned, cutting off from one-third to one-half of their length. In planting the roots should be evenly spread in all directions and the earth thoroughly packed over them so that the trees shall stand firm when the operation is finished. Every tree planted should grow, but frequently from 10 to 20 per cent fall, which is due to improper methods of planting.

The soil should be frequently stirred about the trees to keep them growing. When they are planted in sod and are left to a contest with grass and weeds for existence, many fail to grow or to produce any fruit.

## Rose Jelly.

Another pretty and effective dessert for Easter is made by using ordinary lemon jelly to fill individual cups or molds. In the bottom of which has been laid a single rose and its leaves. The jelly must be cooled somewhat before pouring it into the molds. If preferred, little glass cups may be used, then the jelly does not have to be turned out, but is served in the same cups. Other blossoms that are edible may be used instead of roses.

## WHAT THE PATIENT NEEDED.

"Mrs. Nagget," said the doctor, "your husband needs a rest. He must go to Europe for three months."

"Oh, splendid!" she exclaimed, "I'll be delighted to go there."

"Very good," said the doctor, "but three months after he comes back. That will give him six months' rest."—Philadelphia Ledger.



## THE REVIVAL OF AN OLD FAVORITE.

The return to the soft and graceful lines in dress has brought into the limelight of fashion many old fabric favorites. Silk warp henrietta is one of these, and well deserving it is of the favor given it, for, in addition to its softly draping qualities, it has a trick of taking and holding the dye exquisitely. These silk warp henriettas are used not only for dressy costumes, but for semi-tailored effects as well. The costume illustrated is in a deep raspberry tone, a lattice braid in black arranged on the skirt and disposed in stole effect on the fitted Eton. The sleeves of this coat are elbow length, a fashion that prevails in the spring gowns of cloth as well as wash materials.

## Home-Made Cucumber Cream.

Good cucumber cream is expensive to buy, but quite easy to make at home, and really costs very little.

Carefully wipe two large or three small cucumbers, and, without removing the rind, cut into blocks somewhere about an inch square. Put six ounces sweet almond oil into a double saucepan, filling the outer saucepan with cold water.

Put the cut cucumber into the oil, and heat very slowly to the boiling point. Move the saucepan back and let simmer—not boil—for four or five hours. Strain, pressing out as much juice from the cucumber as you can, and to each six ounces of the strained liquid add one ounce white wax and one ounce cocoa butter.

Put the saucepan again and heat, stirring constantly until thoroughly mixed. Then take off the fire, and beat with an egg-beater until cold, adding during the beating process two teaspoonfuls simple tincture of benzoin. Put into pots and the down.

The quantities in this recipe could, of course, be halved.

## WHAT BECOMES OF THE BIBLES?

The announcement of Dr. James Morrow, secretary of the Pennsylvania Bible Society, that his organization alone distributed 10,000,000 bibles last year, while 5,000,000 were sold by the trade, again calls attention to the immense circulation of the book. Where all the bibles issued go to is a wonder even among the agencies that are concerned in the work. Distributions are supposed to cover, as far as possible, places and persons not yet reached, but it would appear that there are no longer any such places and persons left. Even supposing there were bibles in the knapsacks of some or even all of the slaughtered thousands on the field, or buried with their clothing on at Port Arthur and Muckden, that would be but a drop in the ocean of production. The proportion of bibles to be found on second-hand book stalls is not greater than that of books, nor are they probably stored away more than other books are. Persons who have investigated the question say it is one of the unexplained mysteries.—Philadelphia Press.

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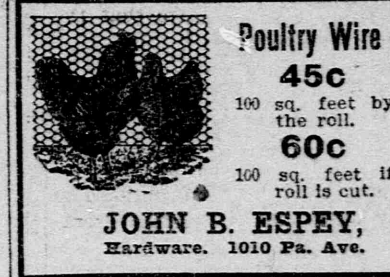
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